

Remarks

With entry of the amendment, claims 1-11, 13-21, 101, and 103-106 are pending in the application. The Examiner has maintained and made final the restriction requirement. Applicants have canceled claims 86-98 and 107 without prejudice to filing a continuation or divisional application thereon.

Claim 18 has been amended to reflect that the recited “glycidine” linker is, in fact, a “glycidyl” linker. Support for the amendment is found throughout the specification (please see, for example, page 16, lines 20-22). Claim 11, which depends indirectly from claim 1, was amended to clarify that the amine of claim 1 referred to in claim 11 has a pK of less than about 9. Support for the amendment is found throughout the specification (please see, for example, claim 1). The amendments are fully supported by the specification and introduce no new matter.

In view of the amendments above and arguments below, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims.

Objection to claim 18

Claim 18 was objected to for the word “glycidine”, which appears to be misspelled. Applicants have amended claim 18 solely for purposes of clarity and for reasons unrelated to patentability to correct a typographical error and to reflect that the linker may be glycidyl.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

Claim 11, which depends indirectly from claim 1, was rejected for the recitation of “the amine with a pK of less than 9” as being indefinite, because the base claim recites an amine with a pK of less than about 9.” For purposes of clarity, and for reasons unrelated to patentability, Applicants have amended claim 11 to reflect that the amine of claim 11 has a pK of less than about 9.

Rejections under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting

Claims 1-11, 13-21, 101, and 103-106 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,310,199. Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer disclaiming the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted upon the instant application beyond the full statutory term of U.S. Patent No. 6,310,199, thereby obviating this rejection. The

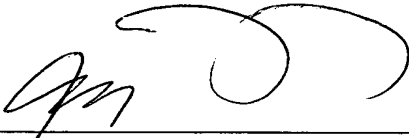
terminal disclaimer is accompanied by a check number 48683 in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 120(d).

As the application is now in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims.

No other fee is believed due in connection with this submission. However, if an additional fee is owed, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0842.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jill A. Fahrlander
Reg. No. 42,518

MICHAEL BEST & FRIEDRICH LLP
One South Pinckney Street, Suite 700
P. O. Box 1806
Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1806
(608) 257-3501
Q:\client\016026\9182\B0261199.1